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# Lassen County Farm Bureau

P.O. BOX 151 TELEPHONE (916) 257-7242  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130

Sept. 22, 1999

CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth St. suite 115  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear People,

*We would like to add our comments on CALFED. First and foremost, CALFED has to incorporate storage into its plans immediately. It must be done in the initial phases of the programs to accommodate the population growth projections for California. Established reservoirs like Lake Shasta should be enlarged and new off stream storage must be built. It is unwise to wait a number of years before taking these progressive steps to obtain other water sources.*

*If CALFED were a bureaucratic maze that idled hundreds of golf courses, browned tens of thousands of landscaped lawns, and drained children's swimming pools the public outrage would be massive. Yet, we should all be outraged at a process which focuses on rural, agricultural Californians in an almost systematic process, eliminating farm families' livelihoods. It idles highly productive land and highly productive people who feed millions. It should not be urban vs. rural. Rural, agricultural California contributes so much to the economy and quality of life of urban dwellers. Farm families are not expendable to be idled at the whim of the bureaucratic aristocracy.*

*Water rights need to be respected. They are the bedrock of the farm economy and altering them will destroy land values and large agricultural loans.*

*Let's add balance and a touch of humanity to this policy dense but impractical, unproven documental directive at people's lives.*

Sincerely,

Steve Fortin, President *42 HC.*  
Lassen County Farm Bureau